

Press Release

120 metres long and 1200 tonnes Tunnel boring machine for U2 metro heads to Vienna

Schwanau/Vienna, 31.01.2024 - Once the station shafts and emergency exits for the individual metro stations are in place, it will be time for the tunnel boring machine (TBM) to take over. From autumn, the TBM will be working its way through Vienna's subsoil over a distance of around 4 kilometres to construct the new U2 metro tunnels between Matzleinsdorfer Platz and Augustinplatz. The factory acceptance of the TBM by Wiener Linien, PORR and STRABAG marks another milestone in the U2xU5 public transport expansion project.

The TBM, which was specially designed for Vienna, was manufactured in Schwanau, at Herrenknecht's German site. The employees of the U2 17-21 consortium, consisting of PORR and STRABAG, have spent the past few months working with the manufacturer's experts to assemble the machine. It is 120 metres long and weighs a remarkable 1,200 tonnes. Dismantled into individual parts, it will be transported from southern Germany to Vienna over the next few months, where it will be reassembled at Matzleinsdorfer Platz. The TBM will start full operation in autumn: Similar to an operational "buttonhole method", the TBM's work will take place underground and all the earth excavated by the TBM will be removed via a central shaft at Matzleinsdorfer Platz. This will save 20,000 truck journeys through the city along with 75 tonnes of CO₂.

Using drive power of 1.92 megawatts, the TBM will dig its way through Vienna from Matzleinsdorfer Platz station to Augustinplatz in the seventh district, connecting all four new stations (U2xS Matzleinsdorfer Platz, U2 Reinprechtsdorfer Straße, U2xU4 Pilgramgasse, U2xU3 Neubaugasse) and their station shafts for the first time. Once its work is complete, the TBM will leave behind two U2 tunnel tubes with an excavation diameter of 6.84 metres.

Photos:





Factory acceptance of the new tunnel boring machine © Herrenknecht AG

This press release including high-resolution images is available for download from the [PORR Newsroom](#).

About the PORR Group

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